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Title: Need to accord notified depot status to FCI Depot at Borivali in Mumbai.

SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR (MUMBAI NORTH WEST): There is a FCI depot at Borivali, Mumbai which has been in operation for the last fifty years. The foodgrains from this depot are regularly supplied to Mumbai city and its suburban areas, districts of Thane and Palghar. But somehow this depot has not been notified which is creating a lot of problems for distributing foodgrains to these areas in time. On the contrary, Depots which were started after Borivali FCI Depot in other parts of Maharashtra have been given notified depot status.

Further, it is pertinent to mention here that depots at Pune, Gondia, Nagpur were brought under notified categories way back in 1991 whereas the biggest FCI depot at Borivali has not yet been notified for the reasons best known to the minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution. Initially these depots functioned under the Regional Director of Food. After creating the Food Corporation of India, 1000 employees were brought under the administration of FCI. It is requested that both the FCI depot at Borivali as well as employees be brought under the umbrella of the notified category.

Since the Borivali depot has not been notified, nearly 388 labourers who have been working for the last 50 years are being transferred arbitrarily to other parts of Maharashtra and contract labourers will be recruited in their places. The tender for supplying contract labourers is being prepared.

Therefore, I would request the Ministry of consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution to notify the Borivali FCI Depot as a notified category immediately so that foodgrains could be supplied to more and more areas on a permanent basis. In the meantime, I would request the Ministry to keep the tender for supplying labour in abeyance till a final decision is taken on the above issues.